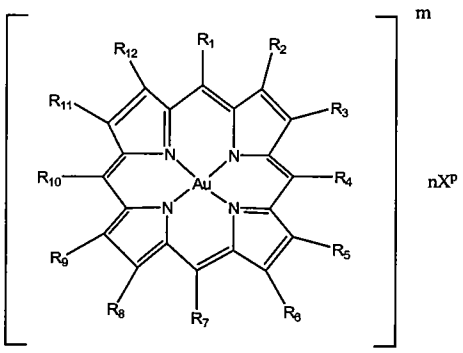
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for induction of ~~apoptosis of cancer cells~~ cytotoxic effects in hepatocellular carcinoma cells or nasopharyngeal carcinoma cells, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a composition comprising an effective amount of a gold(III) complex of formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each neutral or negatively charged, and are each independently -H, -halo, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl or -O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -(6-membered)aryl or -(5 to 10-membered)heteroaryl, each of which may be substituted with one or more -halo, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -OSO_2 or -SO_3;

R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently -H, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, each of which may be substituted with one or more -C(O)OR_{13}, -halo or =O groups;

R_{13} is -(C_1-C_6)alkyl;

each X^p is independently a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

m is an integer ranging from -3 to [[5]] 1;

p is an integer ranging from [[-3]] -1 to 3; and

n is equal to the absolute value of m/p[[;]] when p is not equal to zero, or n is equal to zero when p is equal to zero, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each -H.; X^p is Cl^-; m is 1; and n is 1.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -phenyl.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-methylphenyl.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-bromophenyl.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-chlorophenyl.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -pentafluorophenyl.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -H; R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each -ethyl; X^p is Cl^-; m is 1; and n is 1.

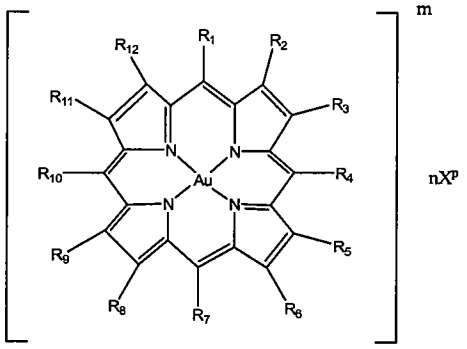
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -H; and R_2 and R_{11} are each -ethyl; R_3, R_5, R_9 and R_{12} are each -methyl; R_6 and R_8 are each -methyl-3-propanoate; X^p is Cl^-; m is 1; and n is 1.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-sulfonatophenyl; R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each -H; X^p is Na^+; m is [[+3]] -3; and n is 3.

14-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently amended) A method for inhibition of reverse transcriptase of Human Immunodeficiency virus-1, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a composition comprising an effective amount of a gold(III) complex of formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each neutral or negatively charged, and are each independently -H, -halo, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl or -O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -(6-membered)aryl or -(5 to 10-membered)heteroaryl, each of which may be substituted with one or more -halo, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -OSO_2 or -SO_3;

R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently -H, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, each of which may be substituted with one or more -C(O)OR_{13}, -halo or =O groups;

R_{13} is -(C_1-C_6)alkyl;

each X^p is independently a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

m is an integer ranging from -3 to [[5]] 1;

p is an integer ranging from [[-3]] -1 to 3; and

n is equal to the absolute value of m/p[[;]] when p is not equal to zero, or n is equal to zero when p is equal to zero, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each -H.; X^p is Cl^-; m is 1; and n is 1.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -phenyl.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-methylphenyl.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-bromophenyl.

31. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-chlorophenyl.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -pentafluorophenyl.

34. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -H; R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each -ethyl; X^p is Cl^-; m is 1; and n is 1.

35. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -H; and R_2 and R_{11} are each -ethyl; R_3, R_5, R_9 and R_{12} are each -methyl; R_6 and R_8 are each -methyl-3-propanoate; X^p is Cl^-; m is 1; and n is 1.

36. (Cancelled).

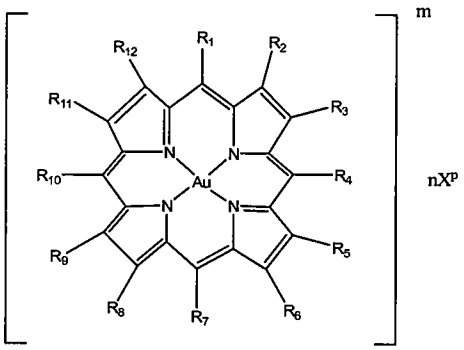
37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each -4-sulfonatophenyl; R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each -H; X^p is Na^+; m is =3; and n is 3.

38-54. (Cancelled).

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein said composition further comprises 3'-azido-2',3'-dideoxythymidine.

56-57. (Cancelled).

58. (Currently amended) A complex formed between a ligand and a gold(III) complex of formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R_1, R_4, R_7 and R_{10} are each neutral or negatively charged, and are each independently -H, -halo, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl or -O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -(6-membered)aryl or -(5 to 10-membered)heteroaryl, each of which may be substituted with one or more -halo, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -OSO_2 or -SO_3;

R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8, R_9, R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently -H, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, each of which may be substituted with one or more -C(O)OR_{13}, -halo or =O groups;

R_{13} is -(C_1-C_6)alkyl;

each [[Xp]] X^p is independently a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

m is an integer ranging from -3 to [[5]] 1;

p is an integer ranging from [[-3]] -1 to 3; and

n is equal to the absolute value of m/p when p is not equal to zero, or

n is equal to zero when p is equal to zero.

59. (Original) The complex of claim 58, wherein the ligand is selected from the group consisting of porphyrins, metalloporphyrins, amino acids, peptides, polypeptides, proteins, nucleotides, polynucleotides, deoxyribonucleic acid, and ribonucleic acid.

60-63. (Cancelled).